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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|

08/942,264 10/01/97 BOUCHER

G E-679

EXAMINER

TM02/0813

ROBERT E MEYER  
PITNEY BOWES INC INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY  
AND TECHNOLOGY LAW DEPARTMENT  
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ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2171

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

Paper No. 21

Application Number: 08/942,264  
Filing Date: October 01, 1997  
Appellant(s): BOUCHER ET AL.

Alberta A. Vitale, Reg. No. 41,520

For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

**MAILED**  
AUG 13 2001  
Technology Center 2100

This is in response to appellant's brief on appeal filed on July 04, 2001.

**(1) Real Party in Interest**

A statement identifying the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

Art Unit: \*\*\*

**(2) *Related Appeals and Interferences***

The brief does not contain a statement identifying the related appeals and interferences which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the decision in the pending appeal is contained in the brief. Therefore, it is presumed that there are none. The Board, however, may exercise its discretion to require an explicit statement as to the existence of any related appeals and interferences.

**(3) *Status of Claims***

The statement of the status of the claims contained in the brief is correct.

**(4) *Status of Amendments After Final***

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief is correct.

**(5) *Summary of Invention***

The summary of invention contained in the brief is correct.

**(6) *Issues***

The appellant's statement of the issues in the brief is substantially correct.

**(7) *Grouping of Claims***

Art Unit: \*\*\*

The rejection of claims 1-10 stand or fall together because appellant's brief does not include a statement that this grouping of claims does not stand or fall together and reasons in support thereof. See 37 CFR 1.192(c)(7).

**(8) Claims Appealed**

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

**(9) Prior Art of Record**

|           |                |        |
|-----------|----------------|--------|
| 5,293,310 | Carroll et al. | 3-1994 |
| 6,047,267 | Owens et al.   | 4-2000 |

**(10) Grounds of Rejection**

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carroll et al. (Carroll) U.S. Patent No. 5,293,310, in view of Owens et al. (Owens) U.S. Patent No. 6,047,267. This rejection is set forth in prior Office Action, Paper No. 11.

**(11) Response to Argument**

Applicant is reminded that the features of uploading a set of data from the client system to the host system, and determining which data is to be updated at the host system, that Applicant are relied on (see specification under "Summary of the

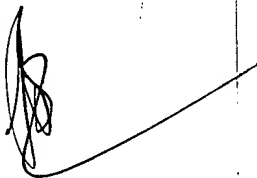
Art Unit: \*\*\*

Invention", page 8 lines 20 to page 9, lines 2), are not addressed in the independent claim 6.

Examiner believes Carroll's process is the same as the process of Appellant's claims (see the details in the Office Action paper #11), with the exception that Carroll's system of does not explicitly put the system into the object-oriented environment. However, The Owens reference can make up for the Carroll's deficit, because both Carroll and Owens teach the same functionality of rating and updating data within a client-server system environment (see both references' abstracts; fig. 1 of Carroll, and fig. 4-6 of Owens). Owens teaches mapping data that is represented in transient memory according to an object-oriented scheme to data that is represented in persistent memory according to a relational database scheme. The object server generates appropriate tables and columns for a relational database scheme automatically so that the object-oriented scheme generated by a user may be efficiently stored, updated, and searched in persistent memory [see fig. 5, 6].

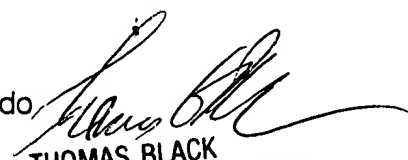
For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,



August 08, 2001

Examiner: Thuy Pardo



THOMAS BLACK  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100



WAYNE AMSBURY  
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER